

From: Tom Burke
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 9:28pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have been associated with the computer revolution since the early 1960's. I have seen the growth and witnessed through my work on the Space Program the tremendous things that can be done with the computer. Attached is a letter expressing my sincere thoughts that the current Microsoft Settlement is fair and should be implemented without further delay.

Please feel free to contact me if needed.

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28 January 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I have been associated with the computer revolution since the early 1960Æs. I have seen the growth and witnessed through my work on the Space Program the tremendous things that can be done with the computer. My graduate work dealt with many papers, which visualized the many possibilities that computers offered to civilization. Re-reading these notes today I see that I did not come close to understanding what the computer revolution held for our society. Thank God for visionaries associated with Microsoft who have taken conceptual ideas not dreamed of in the early days of computers and made them into todayÆs standards. Looking ahead for the next forty years I firmly believe that we will see that we have only begun to scratch the surface of what technology and social development driven by computers can achieve. Most of the growth of this revolution has occurred during the past 10 years when Microsoft released the power of the computer and the Internet through the introduction of the Windows operating System.

It would be a crime of the greatest magnitude to stymie this innovation because competitors lack the vision to move with the concepts being developed for our future. The government rather than holding back these ideas should recognize that this technology has reached this pinnacle without major government intervention. Why start now?

Microsoft is a good company and I was very glad when the antitrust lawsuit filed against them was finally settled. There is no need for further litigation in this issue. I truly believe that the resolution is both fair and in the interest of the people of this country.

The provisions of this settlement are unique to this type of lawsuit. This is the first lawsuit ever that requires a company to disclose internal information about its interfacing new software with its current systems. The Microsoft settlement also includes provisions that restrict Microsoft from entering into any kind of agreements that would limit competition among software companies. This settlement truly addresses all the concerns of the people, and keeps competition viable within this market.

IF MERGEFIELD PARA2 But clever people like me who talk loudly in restaurants, see this as a deliberate ambiguity. A plea for justice in a mechanized society.<> "" "
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I see no need for further litigation. Vast amounts time and resources have already been spent on pursuing

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Microsoft and I think it's time that no more be used. The resolution now on the table is a fine one. I urge you to support it and let it stand as is. I thank you for your time and I am sure that you will do what you feel is best for people and economy of this country.

IF MERGEFIELD PARA5 But is suspense, as Hitchcock states, in the box. No, there isn't room, the ambiguity's put on weight.<> "" "

Sincerely,

Thomas Burke
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